उपसभापति [illegible] लीजिए, [illegible] रहेगा। [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] बनवेसेरी [illegible]

Will the House allow me to move a Resolution from the chair on Nelson Mandela or not? That is, if you want me. Otherwise I can suspend that also.

SOME HON'OURABLE MEMBERS: We want it.

SHRI K. P. THANGKAPALU: Punjab tomorrow.

RESOLUTION WELCOMINGG RELEASE OF NELSON MANDELA FROM PRISON IN SOUTH AFRICA

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This House —

1. warmly welcomes the release of the great freedom fighter Nelson Mandela after 27 years in South African prisons, during which period his dignity and indomitable spirit became a source of inspiration and strength not only for the suffering majority of the people of South Africa but also for the downtrodden and exploited people in the world;

2. draws the attention of the international community to the fact that even with the release of Dr. Mandela, other steps necessary to create a climate for negotiations for the dismantlement of apartheid have yet to be taken;

3. urges the international community to maintain pressure through sanctions on the South African regime in order to steer it towards negotiations;

4. reiterates India's commitment to the eradication of apartheid, which is based on national consensus evolved from the days of India's freedom struggle and Mahatama Gandhi's experiments with non-violent opposition to forces of racism and imperialism in South Africa itself;

5. notes with satisfaction the acceptance by Nelson Mandela of the invitation of the Prime Minister to visit India;

6. welcomes the establishment of the Nelson Mandela National Reception Committee, consisting of prominent citizens from all walks of life in India, with the Prime Minister as its Chairman; and

7. resolves to give Nelson Mandela a befitting welcome when he visits India.

The Resolution was adopted

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Situation in Jammu and Kashmir

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Uttar Pradesh): Bofors. I will raise tomorrow.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are an irrepressible person.

I think the statements we will take up tomorrow.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): What about item No. 4?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will not take it up now. Everybody wants to discuss the Kashmir issue. We will discuss it.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I am on another point. If I lay it on the Table of the other House, it is incumbent on my part that I should lay it on the Table of this House also. You permit me to lay it later on. I don't mind, even after the Kashmir debate.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Does not matter. Even after the Kashmir discussion you can lay it.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: The House should not take objection later on that I have laid something in the other House and that I have not done it here.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House will not take objection.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): We are not taking any objection.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Apart from Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, Prof. Madhu Dandavate, Shri Arif Mohd. Khan and Shri Dinesh Goswami have to lay statements on the Table. If the House does not so agree, we will defer it. If the House agrees, they just have to lay it. It is a procedural matter. If you just agree, it is okay.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: No. Please defer them. (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think you have appointed a leader to speak. Let him speak.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Maharashtra): We have to ask clarifications. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. Your leader is on his feet. Just look around also. Let him give his view. Let him say. The Minister wants to make a statement. If you don't want it, he can do it later.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Madam Deputy Chairman, our request would be that all these statements may be deferred because after the statements are made it is possible that we might seek clarifications. That is why it is better that you kindly defer them.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okey, agreed You can defer it. Mr Minister.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Before the Home Minister is pleased to make the statement I submit that we are not merely confining to the statement. We will have a full-fledged debate. It is not merely seeking clarifications I hope this is agreed upon.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. It is not going to be only seeking clarifications. After the Minister makes the statement, it will be a full-fledged debate. That is why we have suspended the Question Hour, and we are taking that as our priority.

I am happy that Mr. Sibtey Razi has come back.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): Madam Deputy Chairman, the prevailing situation in the Kashmir valley which is very grave, is the cumulative result of inadequate ....

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: We have not received copies. How can you make a statement without supplying the copies?

What is the state of preparedness of this Government that we do not have copies?

SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU (Tamil Nadu): We do not have copies. Where are the copies?

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Let there be a one-day workshop for the Ministers.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let the copies come.

If the House permits me, I will make an announcement before the copies are distributed so that we do not waste the time of the House. (*Interruptions*) Just a minute. This is just an announcement about a Member. This is a normal business for one minute.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN (Tamil Nadu): A Minister for Kashmir Affairs has been appointed.

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE (Maharashtra): He should be in the House.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Prime Minister is there.

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: We want the Minister for Kashmir Affairs.

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): May I clarify? (*Interruptions*) If you bear with me, I will clarify about it. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Is Kashmir within the purview of the Home Minister or not?

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Mr. Subramanian Swamy, if you bear with me, I will clarify it.

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: The Minister for Kashmir Affairs should be here. Do you agree with it or not?

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Madam Deputy Chairman, Mufti Sahib is Home Minister and he is making the statement on behalf of the Government. This is number one. (*Interruptions*) Please have patience. My colleague George Fernandes has to present the Railway Budget in the Lok Sabha and just...

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: What is this? It it a joke?

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: It is not a joke. You are creating a joke. It is not a joke at all. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Mr. Gurupadaswamy is misleading the House. The Railway Budget is in the afternoon, not now.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Madam, has Mr. Fernandes been appointed Minister for Jammu and Kashmir Affairs or not?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): Madam, I want to explain this. This point is being raised in the Press and the hon. Members have also raised it. I want to clarify these things so that there is no confusion. A Minister for J & K Affairs has been appointed .The Railway Minister, Shri George Fernandes, has been designated the Minister for Jammu and Kashmir Affairs. His job, as I meant, is to coordinate with all the Ministries regarding matters on Jammu and Kashmir. He does not displace any Ministry—Home or other Ministries—in that regard. But his main function is to coordinate with all the Ministries on matters relating to Jammu and Kashmir. There may be a matter relating to Home; there may be a matter relating to Finance; there may be matters relating to development. So, there is no conflict, but rather harmonising the position regarding Jammu and Kashmir.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: No, he is confusing the issue. (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Swamy, please take your seat. It is for the Government to decide who will speak. How can you ask for it? Please take your seat. (*Interruptions*) I won't allow.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: This is all the more reason that George Fernandes should be here. He is a coordinating Minister. Why is he not here? He should be present here and he should listen to us. Then only he will coordinate. You are not directing that the Minister in charge should be here.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: After the Budget he is going to come. He is intervening in the debate.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Is the Home Minister...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He says that he will come. He will present the Railway Budget and then come.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Madam, I want to make it clear...

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: I am not talking about the point of his presence, but aboout the constitution business. It has devalued the office of the Home Minister. It was the seat which was occupied by Sardar Patel. Today he is making a joke of it. I want to know if the Home Minister is senior to other Central Ministers or not. I don't know whether he is a senior Minister or not.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu): It was devalued earlier when Mr. Buta Singh was appointed.

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, काश्मीर के मामले मे हमारे गृह मंत्री जी शक के घेरे मे हैं । रूबिया अपहरण काण्ड के बाद काश्मीर की वादियों मे जो आग लगी है, टेरेरिस्टस छोड़े गए हैं और उसके बाद जो काश्मीर मे आग लगी है वह बुझ नहीं रही है और गृह मंत्री महोदय... (**व्यवधान**)

उपसभापति : रत्नाकर जी आप बैठ जाइये । The Prime Minister is going to make a statement. Please sit down.

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय प्रधान मंत्री जी यहां पर उपस्थित हैं, वे स्वय स्टेटमेंट सदन में दें । गृह मंत्री पर इस सदन का विश्वास नहीं है । गृह मंत्री होने के बाद काश्मीर मे जो आग लगी है और टेरेरिस्टस छोड़े गए हैं, उसी से आज काश्मीर चल रहा है । तो या तो काश्मीर अफेयर्स मिनिस्टर आए या प्रधान मंत्री स्वयं स्टेटमेंट दें । हम गृह मंत्री का स्टेटमेंट नहीं सुनना चाहते हैं । वे शक के घेरे मे हैं और सारा तूफान काश्मीर की वादियों में खड़ा करने के लिए वे जिम्मेदार है हैं ... (**व्यवधान**)

उपसभापति : रत्नाकर जी, आप बैठ जाइए, हाउस को डिस्टर्ब मत कीजिए । ऐसा लगेगा कि आप सीरियस नहीं हैं । (**व्यवधान**)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Anybody who is speaking without permission, will not go on record. (*Interruptions*)

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The Prime Miinster is on his legs, he may be allowed to speak.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Madam, I may be allowed to speak, otherwise I can sit as long as Members want me to sit.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: As we have read in the newspapers, he we have read in the newspapers, he Kashmir Affairs and not as the Minister for coordinating the Kashmir affairs. We want to know what are his functions. Is he a Minister for Kashmir affairs or is he a coordinating Minister? Then what is the status of the Home Minister relating to the new Minister you have appointed? Who is answerable to the Parliament?... (*Interruptions*)... Is the Home Minister or the new Minister. We want to know about it. That is the position we want to get clarified. It is a genuine point for clarification. Who is accountable to Parliament for Kashmir affairs?... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Who is responsible to the Parliament? Is it the Home Minister or Mr. George Fernandes?... (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is answering you.

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*Not recorded.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Just one minute.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Mr. Leader of the House, one minute.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Just one minute. I respect the feelings of my hon. Members opposite and they want to have a discussion on Kashmir and they want the whole day for that purpose; we have agreed and the Government is represented by the Home Minister. The Home Minister, on behalf of the entire Government is making a statement and there wil be a discussion for the whole day and what is wrong... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: I want an answer, who is responsible to the Parliament?... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: To Mr. Subramanian Swamy, I may say that George Fernandes is not running away. He is coming here. He is intervening in the debate.. (*Interruptions*)...The main purpose is to have a meaningful debate. Actually you do not want a meaningful debate at all... (*Interruptions*)

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : इसकी जिम्मेदारी सरकार पर है।

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Madam, if he sits down, I can explain.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Madam, we have sufficiently registered our point. The Prime Minister is here, he wants to clarify, let him clarify.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: When a question is put, there should be patience to listen to the answer also. If there is no intention to listen to the answer, I do not think there is any purpose of putting a question... (*Interruptions*)...You sit down. I will answer it. Nor is the force of the question or the argument increased by the volume of voice put behind it. Let it be clear... (*Interruptions*)...

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): You sit down.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: You sit down... (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Subramanian Swamy, just a minute, you withdraw your words. You called the Prime Minister "deaf". You said, "you are deaf". I won't allow you. If you are deaf, it is a different matter... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: What did you say say, Madam? I did not hear.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Perhaps you are also deaf (*Interruption*). Mr. Subramanian Swamy, if you are serious, then please sit down and let the Prime Minister speak. Let him give an assurance to the House. If you do not allow anybody to speak, then how we are going to proceed with the discussion? The Prime Minister is on his legs. Let him speak. Please take your seat.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Madam Deputy Chairman, the matter is simple. It is not at all complicated. No Minister has been divested of any of his charge as in the allocation of the business that is there. The Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Affairs is to coordinate with all the Ministers concerned without displacing their responsibility under the business allocation rules, to coordinate with all the Ministers regarding the problems of Jammu and Kashmir. So there is no displacement or devaluation of the Home Minister or any other Minister who would be connected with my matter of Jammu and Kashmir. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Who is responsible to Parliament? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Madam, I should be allowed to complete. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am very pained today... (*Interruptions*). Mr. Upendra, please take your seat (*Interruptions*)...I will request you to stop cross-talk. (*Interruptions*)... Instead of telling me, you should tell your Members to keep quiet. When the Prime Minister is on his legs, I think, we should listen to what he has to say on behalf of the Government Please take your seat. I have asked the Prime Minister to make a statement. Please sit down. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. M. JACOB (Kerala): Madam Deputy Chairman, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. P. Upendra, is continuously threatening Members on this side.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, he won't threaten. (*Interruptions*). I think the Members should allow the Prime Minister to speak. Please take your seat. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR (Uttar Pradesh): Just a minute, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Prime Minister on his legs. Please take your seat. You put a question before the Government. The Prime Minister is on his legs. He is going to explain his Government's view-point. You listen to him first. Before he finishes his speech if you object, I do not think it is proper and dignified. Please take your seat. The Prime Minister is going to speak.

SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR Madam, just listen to me.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him finish and then you can speak. I won't listen.

SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR: We are not concerned who makes the statement and who does not make the statement. Let any Minister make the statement. I agree with the Prime Minister that any Minister can make the statement. (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have not permitted you. Please sit down.

SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR: It is neither the Prime Minister nor the Minister for Kashmir Affairs. It is the Prime Minister who is responsible to the House and to the country. You can make any Minister incharge of Kashmir Affairs.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : अभी तो पांच साल की लम्बी अवधि है, कैसे करेंगे पांच साल ? . . . **(व्यवधान)**

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Do you want a discussion or do you, not want a discussion? (*Interruptions*). Please do not disturb.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Madam, I should be assured that at least I will be able to cooperate with the House. I am trying to cooperate even with the Members who are asking questions and explain the full position. (*Interruption*).

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल : जब आप खड़े होते हैं तो आपके ही मिनिस्टर डिस्टर्ब करन के लिए खड़े होते हैं, हम नहीं खड़े होते हैं। **(व्यवधान)**

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: And I will seek the indulgence of the hon. Members. This is the basis of dialogue and interaction. You have availed question in your mind. It is our responsibility to explain it to you. But when we are explaining it, you please have the patience to listen to hear through, the whole answer. Otherwise, it is just not possible. (*Interruptions*). I am explaining it to you. No Minister has been displaced, in that sense, of his responsibility. So there is no degradation of any Minister. In any area, a Minister of the Cabinet... (*Interruption*). Mr. Fotedar, I have told you already. I will say it again.

[Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

It is not proper. If you want to make a point, you stand up on your legs and make your point. This is not the way.

SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR: I am saying that you cannot displace Mr. Choutala. How can you displace any other Minister you dare not.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb the House when the Prime Minister is on his legs. I won't allow anybody to disturb. (*Interruptions*). It is very unfortunate. (*Interruptions*). Nothing spoken without my permission will go on record. Please take your seats.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Let them expose themselves. Not on this side. (*Interruptions*). I was explaining, Madam, that the Cabinet has a collective responsibility. In that way, we are collectively responsible for whatever the Government does. At the same time, there is allocation of business to the Ministers. And in this allocation of business to the Ministers, no Minister, including the Home Minister, has been displaced or divested of any powers. So there is no degradation of the Home Minister. A Minister for Jammu and Kashmir affairs, to coordinate with all the Ministers, regarding Jammu and Kashmir has been inducted and Shri George Fernandes has been designated as the Minister to coordinate the matters of Jammu and Kashmir because... (*Interruptions*)...it is with the perception that Jammu and Kashmir is not only a matter of law and order. The commitment of the parties was to start a political process and for that purpose there is a body of the major parties and the National Conference. It will interact with the Minister for Jammu and Kashmir for starting the political process and political activity and also have a nucleus in Jammu and Kashmir. That was the purpose, the perception. Now, designating a Minister for coordinating all these activities of Jammu and Kashmir does not violate Constitutional provisions. Nor does it displace or denigrate any Minister. The Cabinet works as a team, in unison. There is no dichotomy or contradiction in this matter. And that is the arrangement that has been made. Now, the Railway Minister, who is also designated the Minister for coordinating the matters of Jammu and Kashmir, is to present the Railway Budget on the other House in another five minutes. I will also have to be present at that time. He will come and intervene and will also share with you his views. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: But who is responsible for Parliament?

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Who will report to the Cabinet on Kashmir affairs? Will it be this Minister or the Home Minister? In that case, the Home Minister has been deprived of his powers.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): He is only reassuring... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I will fully explain it. As per the Rules of Business, allocation to each Minister and his area will be announced. But the Government as a whole is responsible to the House. It is not one individual, but the whole Government is responsible. This is what I want to say.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are we proceeding with the Minister's statement or are we discussing the legal points? Do you want to have the discussion or you don't?

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra): I would like to know from the Prime Minister ... (*Interruptions*)...whether the order has been issued by the President?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Yes; The President himself has issued the order.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Madam, we have suspended the Question Hour. We are not discussing the J&K issue, but we are discussing something else. ...(*Interruptions*)...This is only sophistry and nothing else...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): Madam, we have suspended the Question Hour... (*Interruptions*)...We have spent one hour... (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Home Minister.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Madam Deputy Chairman...

The prevailing situation in the Kashmir Valley which is very grave, is the cumulative result of inadequate political and administrative response to a series of developments in the Valley which spurred public disenchantment in the efficacy of political process and administrative machinery to deliver the good. These also provided a fertile ground to the fundamentalist, subversive and anti-national forces to re-group themselves with the aid and assistance of forces operating from across the border. There has been a sharp deterioration in the situation since April, 1988. The extent of people's alienation from the mainstream is apparent from the near total boycott of the recent elections and increasing public sympathy with the militants with the help from across the border, increased militancy in the form of more and more explosions, selective killings and attacks, particularly on the symbols of Central as well as State authority resulted in a climate of fear and subversion of the Govt. machinery in the State.

The situation in the Valley at the time of imposition of the Governor's Rule on January 19, 1990, following the resignation of Dr. Farooq Abdullah represented a grim picture characterised by total paralysis of administrative machinery and disruption of the security and the law and order fabric in the Valley. The State Govt. appeared to have neither the will nor the capacity to put through strong measures to meet the offensive launched by militants. The various secessionist forces had regrouped in an organised manner and political activity in the Valley had virtually ceased, while militants had escalated the tempo of their violent activities.

Since the imposition of Governor's Rule determined efforts are being made to restore the authority of the State and bring back normalcy. There has been revamping of administration at various levels with a view to making various components of administration functional and improving the coordination as also toning up of intelligence net-work and police machinery. The presence of Central Para-military forces has been augmented and steps have been taken to strengthen the vigil on the border.

Our neighbouring country's continued assistance to the secessionist elements in the Valley in a vigorous manner is a cause of grave concern. We have concrete evidence regarding assistance in the shape of arms, inspiration and guidance being received by the militants from across the border. We also have information regarding large number of training camps being run on the other side of the border to train the militants. Its further attempt to internationalise the issue has added a new dimension to the situation.

The situation in Kashmir calls for firm and resolute measures for reasserting the authority of the State and restoring normalcy. It will involve isolating and containing secessionist

[Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed]

elements in an effective manner and toning up of intelligence and administrative machinery. A new vigour is also required to be injected in the local administration and police machinery. It also calls for measures for winning back confidence of people though initiation of political process and implementation of various people-oriented measures on the economic front. Conditions are also to be created in which the people who have left the Valley for Jammu, Delhi and other places in the country can return to their homes.

The Central Govt. is fully alive to the situation and keeping a close watch. While we have taken necessary steps to counter our neighbouring country's offensive, we reiterate our resolve to defend the country's integrity and secular institutions. We also caution the rulers of our neighbouring country against showing undue interest in what is essentially an internal matter of this country. Besides, initiation of various administrative measures as outlined above, political initiative has also been taken with a view to evolving a national consensus for tackling this problem. The Prime Minister has already held a meeting with senior leaders of major political parties on 7th March, 1990 and a delegation comprising leaders of these political parties also visited Srinagar on 8th March, 1990 for making an on-the-spot study of the situation. This visit was followed by a Review Meeting held by Prime Minister on 10th March, 1990, with the leaders of these political parties. A joint statement was also issued after the meeting, reassuring the people of Jammu and Kashmir about maintaining the identity of the State and underlining the need for reviving the political activity. It further expressed the resolve that no sinister designs against the unity and territorial integrity of India shall be permitted to succeed and made an appeal to the mis-guided sections of the people in Kashmir valley to abjure violence and take recourse to peaceful ways for the redressal of their grievances, for which abundant opportunities existed within the Consituation of India. As discussed in the Meeting, a Cabinet Minister has been appointed to coordinate Jammu and Kashmir affairs and an Advisory Committee comprising the representatives of the political parties to assist the Minister has been set up.

The Govt. of India has been rendering all possible assistance to the State Govt. to meet the situation. The Govt. is totally committed to maintaining territorial integrity and unity of the country and foil the nefarious designs of secessionist and subservise elements operating in the Valley. The people of the country stand united in this resolve, sinking our differences.

12.00 NOON

DISCUSSION ON SITUATION IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Shiv Shanker.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): Madam Deputy Chairman, Kashmir has a sensitive, but a chequered history. Its sensiticity is inherited in the history of our freedom struggle and equally in the post-Independence history. I personally consider that the situation in Kashmir, as it is at present, is such that we are sitting on a volcano and if this volcano erupts, the lava will spread all over the country, engulfing the entire country, and pushing the country into tremendous difficulties.

Madam, we may trade charges against each other, those sitting on the other side and those sitting on this side. While I will come to the present situation just now, which has created this serious problem, I would like to say one thing. I would humbly like to bring to the notice of this